

MONTANA

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is the primary form for requesting registration and/or an absentee ballot from your local election official. **Read all instructions printed below and on the FPCA before completing and signing your application.**

FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

APPLICATION FOR STATE OF _____ COUNTY OF _____ CITY OR TOWNSHIP OF _____

I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION (See instruction 1.)

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) _____ b. SEX ☐ c. RACE _____

d. DATE OF BIRTH _____ e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____ f. OTHER IDENTIFICATION NO. (passport, ID card) _____

2. I LAST VOTED or PLACE OF LAST REGISTRATION (Do not leave this section blank. See instructions.)

a. YEAR b. COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP _____ c. STATE _____ d. VOTER REGISTRATION NO. (if known) _____

3. VOTING RESIDENCE (For military, legal residence. For overseas civilians, last residence in U.S. IF USING RURAL ROUTE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS.)

b. NUMBER AND STREET (Do not use Post Office Box) _____

c. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE _____

e. COUNTY OR PARISH _____

4. MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOT TO: (Mailing address where you want the ballot to be sent.)

5. YOUR FAX NUMBER (If this application is faxed, include all international prefixes. See instructions.)

6. POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION (This information is required by most states to send you a ballot for primary elections. See Instructions.)

7. REMARKS (Provide additional information which will assist local election officials in determining your eligibility to register and vote. See Instructions.)

8. AFFIRMATION BY APPLICANT

X one: a, b, c or d
I swear/affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I am: (See Instructions)

a. a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty, or an eligible spouse or dependent.

b. a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S.

c. a U.S. citizen overseas by virtue of employment or accompanying spouse or dependent.

d. other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S.

e. I am a U.S. citizen, eligible to vote in the above jurisdiction, and subscribed to any required state/local oath or statement.

f. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated.

g. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S.

h. The information on this form is true and complete.

i. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____

X

9. WITNESS/NOTARY ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE

(If required by state law)

j. DATE _____

DATE SIGNED _____

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

Application Instructions

Circled letters on the form above correspond to the instructions below. **You must complete all shaded areas.**

A. Do not leave blank. Enter “N/A” if not applicable or if you are a first time voter.

B. Provide the complete street address of your Montana voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location. For example: “on Highway _____, 2 miles past Highway _____, across the street from the _____”

gas station.” This address must be different from the one provided in Item 4 and must be within the county or township where you claim legal voting residence.

C. Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent - usually your current mailing address. It must be different from the address you provided in Item 3.

D. Check ONE box.

E. The applicant must sign and date the FPCA for it to be processed by the local election official.

I. UNIFORMED SERVICES

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Montana and members of the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, and religious groups or welfare agencies assisting and officially attached to the Armed Forces, their spouses and dependents.

B. When To Do It

You may use a single FPCA to request ballots for both the primary election and general elections in a calendar year. However, you must submit a separate FPCA for special elections (for local, state and Federal offices).

(1) **To register and request an absentee ballot**, send a completed FPCA or Federal Write-in Ballot (FWAB) to the local county election administrator so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election. You may only use the FWAB if you are outside the U.S.

If you are unable to meet the 30 day deadline, you may submit a FPCA so that it is received by noon on the day before the election.

If you are already registered and only wish to request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA to the county election administrator during the period beginning 75 days before the election; it must be received by noon on the day before the election.

(2) Return your voted ballot so that it arrives by 8:00 p.m. on election day.

Local election officials mail absentee ballots approximately 45 days before elections for Federal office. For other elections, ballots are mailed approximately 20 days before the election.

If you did not receive your state ballot in a timely manner, see instructions in Chapter 2, page 12, for use of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. See also the special Montana provisions in Paragraph F., Section III. below.

C. Oath/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are sworn to or witnessed.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Montana allows you to send the FPCA and FWAB for registration and absentee ballot by fax. After faxing, submit the form by mail.

- Montana allows you to receive the blank ballot by fax.
- Montana allows you to return the voted ballot by fax.

Only the following Montana counties currently have facilities for voting via fax: Big Horn, Cascade, Custer, Flathead, Jefferson, Lincoln, McCone, Prairie, Ravalli, Rosebud, Stillwater and Toole. Residents of other Montana counties must use the mail.

Please refer to Appendix C for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. **Use only the following numbers:**

DSN 223-5527
(703) 693-5527
1-800-368-8683

Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

II. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens and residents of Montana, and overseas electors. The term “overseas elector” means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in Montana.

- Montana residents temporarily residing outside the U.S. (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- overseas electors (for local, state and Federal office ballots)

B. When To Do It

You may use a single FPCA to request ballots for both the primary election and general elections in a calendar year. However, you must submit a separate FPCA for special elections (for local, state and Federal offices).

(1) To register and request an absentee ballot, send a completed FPCA or Federal Write-in Ballot (FWAB) to the local county election administrator so that it arrives not later than 30 days before the election.

If you are unable to meet the 30 day deadline, you may submit a FPCA so that it is received by noon on the day before the election.

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If you did not receive your state ballot in a timely manner, see instructions in Chapter 2, page 12, for use of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. See also the special Montana provisions in Paragraph F., Section III. below.

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III. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Late Registration

Honorably discharged military personnel and citizens terminated from employment outside the territorial limits of the U.S. following the close of the registration period for the upcoming election are still entitled to register up to noon on the day before the election.

B. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons currently incarcerated for a felony or found to be of unsound mind, as determined by a court, may not vote.

C. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is canceled if the voter fails to respond to certain confirmation mailings and fails to vote in two subsequent elections for Federal office.

D. Action on Registration Requests

Notice of registration or denial is sent.

E. Action If Registration Is Denied

No provision exists for appeal of a denial of registration. If denial occurs, consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

F. Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

If you are overseas, and fear you may not receive your ballot in time to vote and return it, you may vote the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). It must be received by 8 p.m. on election day. The FWAB will be counted if your request for a regular absentee ballot was received not later than 30 days before the election.

If you receive the regular ballot after returning the voted FWAB, you may also vote and return the regular ballot. If both ballots are received by 8 p.m. on election day, the regular ballot will be counted.

The instructions in Chapter 2 still apply for the FWAB except that the voter does not have to wait until he/she determines that the regular ballot will not be received (condition 3) to use the FWAB.

G. Where To Send It

Mail the FPCA to the County Election Administrator, county of voting residence, as listed below:

County	County Seat	Zip Code	County	County Seat	Zip Code
Beaverhead	Dillon	59725-2799	McCone	Circle	59215-0199
Big Horn	Hardin	59034-0608	Meagher	White Sulphur Springs	59645-0309
Blaine	Chinook	59523-0278	Mineral	Superior	59872-0550
Broadwater	Townsend	59644-0489	Missoula	Missoula	59801-4292
Carbon	Red Lodge	59068-0887	Musselshell	Roundup	59072-2498
Carter	Ekalaka	59324-0315	Park	Livingston	59047-1037
Cascade	Great Falls	59403-2305	Petroleum	Winnett	59087-0226
Chouteau	Fort Benton	59442-0459	Phillips	Malta	59538-0646
Custer	Miles City	59301-3496	Pondera	Conrad	59425-2383
Daniels	Scobey	59263-0247	Powder River	Broadus	59317-0338
Dawson	Glendive	59330-1694	Powell	Deer Lodge	59722-1084
Deer Lodge	Anaconda	59711-2999	Prairie	Terry	59349-0125
Fallon	Baker	59313-0846	Ravalli	Hamilton	59840-5002
Fergus	Lewistown	59457-2598	Richland	Sidney	59270-4087
Flathead	Kalispell	59901-5400	Roosevelt	Wolf Point	59201-1600
Gallatin	Bozeman	59715-4574	Rosebud	Forsyth	59327-3072
Garfield	Jordan	59337-0007	Sanders	Thompson Falls	59873-0249
Glacier	Cut Bank	59427-3075	Sheridan	Plentywood	59254-1699
Golden Valley	Ryegate	59074-0010	Silver Bow	Butte	59701-9256
Granite	Philipsburg	59858-0736	Stillwater	Columbus	59019-0147
Hill	Havre	59501-3999	Sweet Grass	Big Timber	59011-0460
Jefferson	Boulder	59632-0249	Teton	Choteau	59422-0610
Judith Basin	Stanford	59479-0485	Toole	Shelby	59474-1990
Lake	Polson	59860-2174	Treasure	Hysham	59038-0392
Lewis and Clark	Helena	59624-1721	Valley	Glasgow	59230-0311
Liberty	Chester	59522-0459	Wheatland	Harlowton	59036-0903
Lincoln	Libby	59923-1941	Wibaux	Wibaux	59353-0207
Madison	Virginia City	59755-0366	Yellowstone	Billings	59107-5002

“Use Your Vote Or Lose Your Voice”

by Michele Franich, Whitehall, Montana